

BARNARD CASTLE URBAN DISTRICT
COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT
of the
Medical Officer of Health
for the year
1970.

A. S. M. WILSON,
Medical Officer of Health.

BARNARD CASTLE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Council Offices,
Woodleigh,
Barnard Castle.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my Annual Report for 1970.

The Vital Statistics of the district continue to be generally satisfactory.

I would again thank Members of the Council for their suggestions and help. I am indebted to Mr. Dixon for his help during the year and for his preparation of Section II.

Some information is included concerning the Offices Shops & Railway Premises Act at the request of a Member of the Council.

Your obedient Servant,

A. S. M. WILSON

Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

Medical Officer of Health (part-time):

A. S. M. WILSON, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P.S., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health:

N. C. COOMBS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P:

Public Health Inspector and Surveyor:

EDGAR DIXON, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H.

S E C T I O N I

GENERAL STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

| | |
|---|----------|
| Area (Acreage) | 559 |
| Population (Registrar General's Estimated Figure Mid-Year 1970 | 5,570 |
| Sum represented by a penny rate | £588.79 |
| Rateable Value as at 1.4.70 | £157,323 |

Main Local Industries

Glaxo Laboratories Limited employed 999 people during 1970, and are concerned with the manufacture of antibiotics and vitamins by fermentation processes, together with the handling of antibiotics in bulk filling, packing and despatch thereof. This is the main industry and employment in the district.

Considerable extensions are underway at this factory which will of course provide further employment.

Other industrial establishments in the district are concerned with engineering and ironfounding; agricultural and dairy engineering; the manufacture of gloves; making-up of leather goods and egg and poultry packing.

Climatic Conditions

Table Showing Annual Rainfall in Inches
Compiled From Figures Received from the Bowes Museum

| | <u>1968</u> <u>Inches</u> | <u>1969</u> <u>Inches</u> | <u>1970</u> <u>Inches</u> |
|---------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| January | 1.69 | 2.86 | 4.21 |
| February | 2.18 | 2.89 | 4.40 |
| March | 3.76 | 4.12 | 1.42 |
| April | 1.88 | 2.34 | 4.76 |
| May | 2.43 | 3.25 | 0.94 |
| June | 2.35 | 3.69 | 1.48 |
| July | 3.68 | 1.26 | 3.25 |
| August | 1.30 | 2.39 | 2.04 |
| September | 4.53 | 2.17 | 0.88 |
| October | 3.39 | 0.39 | 1.97 |
| November | 2.65 | 4.52 | 4.59 |
| December | <u>3.50</u> | <u>1.87</u> | <u>3.00</u> |
| | <u>33.34</u> | <u>31.75</u> | <u>32.94</u> |
| Average Rainfall | | | |
| 5 years 1966 - 1970 | | 33.87 | |
| | | 32.94 | 1970 |
| | | 31.75 | 1969 |
| | | 33.34 | 1968 |
| | | 35.11 | 1967 |
| | | 36.21 | 1966 |

Vital Statistics - 1970

| | Males | | | Females | | |
|----------------------|--------|----------|-------|---------|----------|-------|
| | Legit. | Illegit. | Total | Legit. | Illegit. | Total |
| Live Births | 40 | 2 | 42 | 35 | 2 | 37 |
| Still Births | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Deaths of Infants | | | | | | |
| Under 1 year of age | 1 | - | 1 | 1 | - | 1 |
| Under 4 weeks of age | 1 | - | 1 | 1 | - | 1 |
| Under 1 week of age | 1 | - | 1 | 1 | - | 1 |

| | Male | Female | Total |
|--|------|--------|-------|
| A. All causes of death | 29 | 46 | 75 |
| B. Main Causes of Death | | | |
| 1. Cardio-Vascular:- | | | |
| (a) Ischaemic heart disease | 8 | 11 | 19 |
| (b) Cerebrovascular disease | 12 | 11 | 23 |
| (c) Other forms of heart disease | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| (d) Other circulatory diseases | - | 5 | 5 |
| Totals | 22 | 28 | 50 |
| 2. Cancer (Malignant Neoplasms and Leukaemia) | 3 | 12 | 15 |

The main causes of death in the district during the year were diseases of the heart (50 deaths) and cancer (15 deaths).

Live-birth Rate - 14.2 per 1,000 home population.
Adjusted Rate - 15.3 per 1,000 home population.
Corresponding Rate for England and Wales 16.0 per 1,000 home population.

Death Rate - 13.5 per 1,000 home population.
Adjusted Rate - 10.4 per 1,000 home population.
Corresponding Rate for England and Wales - 11.7 per 1,000 home population.

Deaths of Infants

Under 1 year of age - 25 per 1,000 live-births.
Corresponding Rate for England and Wales - 18 per 1,000 live-births.

Perinatal Mortality - 25 per 1,000 total live and still births.
Corresponding Rate for England and Wales - 23 per 1,000 total live and still births.

| Year | 1961 | 1962 | 1963 | 1964 | 1965 | 1966 | 1967 | 1968 | 1969 | 1970 |
|------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Population | 5290 | 5280 | 5290 | 5420 | 5410 | 5360 | 5410 | 5560 | 5560 | 5570 |
| Births | 85 | 105 | 96 | 115 | 101 | 80 | 84 | 100 | 90 | 79 |

The above table shows live-births per year since 1961 together with the estimated populations for each year.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE DISTRICT

A. Hospitals

The Richardson-Bede Hospital complex now makes available 82 beds which is a most valuable asset to the community.

B. Laboratories

Public Health Laboratories are available at Northallerton and Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Facilities are also provided at Bishop Auckland General Hospital, Pathological Department for urgent bacteriological examinations.

C. County Council Services

In his quarterly reports to the Area Health Sub-Committee the County Medical Officer includes most of the following information about Health Services in the Area.

1. Ambulance Facilities.

Barnard Castle urban and rural districts are served by two ambulance depots, three ambulances and six driver-attendants.

2. Home Nursing and Midwifery Services

Staff: 5 District Nurse Midwives.

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Address</u> | <u>Telephone No.</u> |
|--------------------------|--|----------------------|
| <u>Miss L. H. Dodd</u> | <u>4, Montgomery Road,</u> <u>Barnard Castle.</u> | Barnard Castle 2149 |
| <u>Mrs. L. M. Morton</u> | <u>3, Harmire Road,</u> <u>Barnard Castle.</u> | Barnard Castle 3156 |
| Mrs. M. C. Pattison | 45, Coronation Gardens, Staindrop | Staindrop 316 |
| Miss E. Shenton | 13, Eden Crest, Gainford. | Gainford 247 |
| Mrs. V. M. Slack | Garden House, Copley, Butterknowle. | Cockfield 254 |

These District Nurse Midwives practice domicilliary midwifery and carry out general home nursing as required.

3. Health Visiting

The number of Health Visitors in the area at the end of 1970 was three. Their routine duties include visits to mothers and children, tuberculosis patients, the mentally subnormal, school children and the aged.

4. Domestic Help Service

Assistance is provided in the home when necessary on account of old age, home confinement or illness. During 1970, help was provided at 19 homes by 10 home helps.

5. Child Welfare Centres

A Baby Clinic and Antenatal Clinic are provided by the family doctors in the town, with a health visitor and district nurses in attendance.

DIPHTHERIA, WHOOPING COUGH AND TETANUS IMMUNISATION;

POLIOMYELITIS, SMALLPOX AND MEASLES VACCINATION

Protection against poliomyelitis, diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, smallpox and measles is available from family doctors and child welfare centres.

Polio protection is available up to the age of 40 and to certain priority groups over that age. The vaccine may be had either by injection or by mouth.

During 1970, the immunisation of school entrants was continued. This work was carried out within the schools on a sessional basis and is reflected in the general immunisation statistics for the area.

The following records have been received for work carried out in the area during 1970.

| | <u>TOTAL UNDER 16 YEARS</u> | |
|----------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| | <u>Primary</u> | <u>Boosters</u> |
| Poliomyelitis | 42 | 110 |
| Diphtheria | 59 | 103 |
| Whooping Cough | 50 | 5 |
| Tetanus | 65 | 132 |
| Smallpox | 23 | 3 |
| Measles | 12 | - |

The statistics for immunisation and vaccination in the Barnard Castle Area are still not as satisfactory as they might be despite the steady flow of information to parents exhorting them to take advantage of the wide range of protection so readily available to them.

B. C. G. Vaccination

During 1970 protection against tuberculosis continued to be offered in accordance with County Council policy to all school children aged 11 years and over.

A skin test is carried out first to see whether or not a child has developed a degree of natural immunity. A negative reading indicates the need for protection, and vaccination is then carried out.

Of the 251 children tested during 1970, 170 were found to be negative and were vaccinated.

Children who are absent, or not vaccinated for such medical reasons as intercurrent infection, skin conditions, etc. are usually taken up at subsequent sessions.

INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during recent years

| | 1966 | 1967 | 1968 | 1969 | 1970 |
|--------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Scarlet Fever | 1 | 1 | 2 | 28 | 3 |
| Diphtheria | - | - | - | - | - |
| Measles | 22 | 47 | 164 | 2 | 94 |
| Whooping Cough | - | 12 | 27 | 9 | 2 |
| Poliomyelitis | - | - | - | - | - |
| Dysentery | - | - | - | 13 | - |
| Food Poisoning | - | - | - | - | - |
| Meningitis | - | - | 1 | 1 | - |
| Infective Jaundice | - | - | - | 4 | 1 |

Tuberculosis

There were no notifications of tuberculosis during the year and no death occurred which was attributed to this cause.

SECTION II.

GENERAL PUBLIC HEALTH CIRCUMSTANCES

Water Supply

Water is impounded in reservoirs in the upper reaches of the Tees Valley, treated at Lartington and distributed in the urban area by the Tees Valley & Cleveland Water Board. The water is satisfactory in quantity and quality and gravitates to all parts of the town.

Closet Accommodation

The whole of the town is served with water closets with the exception of four properties situated in such a position that drainage cannot gravitate to the sewer. These four properties have pail privies.

Refuse Collection and Disposal

The Council supply polythene bin liners for refuse storage on the premises. Part of these are cleared twice a week and the greater part of the area once a week. Two S & D Pakamatic Refuse Collection Vehicles remove this refuse to the Barnard Castle Rural District Council's Cragg Wood Tip at Cockfield. A separate vehicle is used for conveying bulky articles which are removed at the request of householders.

Improvement Grants - Housing Acts, 1949 - 1969

| | <u>Discretionary</u> | <u>Standard</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|--|----------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Applications submitted to the local authority during 1970. | 10 | 20 | 30 |
| Applications refused during 1970. | - | - | - |
| Total number of applications approved since the inception of scheme. | 159 | 78 | 237 |
| Total number of grants paid since the inception of scheme. | 141 | 67 | 208 |

New Dwellings during 1970

Dunelm Court flatlets scheme which has 15 two person flats and 19 one person flats with a warden's house, was completed by the North Eastern Housing Association Ltd. in November, 1970. These provide 35 units of accommodation available for letting by the Council.

Six dwellings built by private enterprise were completed and occupied during the year, one bungalow at 15, Prospect Place and 5 houses at Sherwood Close.

Housing Units Lost During the Year

Five houses in King Street and Portland Square were the subject of Demolition Orders during the year.

One house in a clearance area was vacant but still standing at the end of the year.

Housing by the Council

Eighteen one bedroom flats to complete the redevelopment of Dunelm Square were in an advanced state of preparation and 28 houses and 6 bungalows on Kalafat, Crook Lane, had received Planning approval.

Tenders for the roads and sewers for the Passenger Station Site (industrial development) and Goods Station site (housing) were submitted but not accepted on the 31st December, 1970.

The number of applications on the Council's housing list was 138 compared with 122 at the end of 1969.

Provision of Dwellings by the Local Authority

| | Owners | Situation | No. of Bedrooms | | | | |
|-----------|--|------------------------|-----------------|-----|-----|----|-------|
| | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | Total |
| Pre 1939 | Barnard Castle U.D.C. | Dunelm Court | - | 1 | - | - | 1 |
| | North Eastern) Housing Association Limited) | Dunelm Court | 10 | - | - | - | 10 |
| | | Dawson Road | - | 22 | 14 | 8 | 44 |
| | | TOTAL PRE 1939 | 10 | 23 | 14 | 8 | 55 |
| Post 1939 | Barnard Castle U.D.C. | Victoria Road | - | - | 12 | - | 12 |
| | North Eastern) Housing Association Limited) | Zetland Road Estate | - | 20 | 28 | 6 | 54 |
| | | Montalbo Road Estate | 8 | - | 82 | 12 | 102 |
| | | Zetland Road Estate | 6 | 20 | 13 | - | 39 |
| | | Green Lane Site | 8 | 76 | 80 | 12 | 176 |
| | | The Bank Redevelopment | - | 1 | 5 | 1 | 7 |
| | | Thorngate " | 4 | 2 | 5 | - | 11 |
| | | Bridgegate " | - | 22 | 32 | - | 54 |
| | | Galgate " | 3 | 1 | - | - | 4 |
| | | Churchill Road | - | - | 87 | - | 87 |
| | | Dunelm Court | 34 | 1 | - | - | 35 |
| | | TOTAL POST 1939 | 63 | 143 | 344 | 31 | 581 |
| | | TOTAL HOUSES | 73 | 166 | 358 | 39 | 636 |

Factories and Workshops

Three notifications were received from the Factory Inspector and were remedied during the year.

Three outworkers, finishing wearing apparel, are employed in the district. The premises are satisfactory.

Offices, Shops & Railway Premises Act, 1963.

A yearly inspection was made of the following premises registered under the Act.

22 Offices
50 Retail Shops
1 Warehouse
8 Catering Establishments

Conditions generally were found to be fairly satisfactory and no accidents were reported during the year.

Public Health Act, 1936. Section 269.

The temporary dwelling on the Prospect Place Caravan Site was once again licenced. All necessary services are adjacent to the dwelling.

Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960.

Prospect Place Caravan Site, Staindrop Road, Barnard Castle.

This is a residential site limited to 17 caravans with all the requirements of a caravan site provided and serviced by a tarmacadam road from Staindrop Road.

Red Well Inn, Harmire Road, Barnard Castle.

A licence was issued to the site owner in respect of one caravan which is permanently occupied.

The remainder of the site can be occupied by up to 35 holiday caravans during the period 1st March to 31st October. All necessary services are provided on the site.

Rodent Control

Four Council, 7 business and 24 domestic properties received treatment for rodent infestation during the year.

Slaughterhouses

The following four slaughterhouses in the area were licenced again during the year:-

- | | | |
|----|---------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. | Vere Road, Barnard Castle. | Mr. W. H. Foster. |
| 2. | Rear of 54, Galgate, Barnard Castle. | W. Peat Ltd. |
| 3. | Birch Road, Barnard Castle. | Mr. F. A. Youngs. |
| 4. | Rear of 46, The Bank, Barnard Castle. | Mr. R. C. Jackson. |

Meat Inspection Regulations, 1963.

Inspections are made daily with the exception of Sundays. In the absence of the Inspector through sickness or holidays, full inspection is still maintained by an Inspector from the Barnard Castle Rural District Council.

Animals Slaughtered

The following table shows the animals killed, inspected and found unfit for human consumption at the slaughterhouses during the year 1970.

| | Cattle excluding Cows | Cows | Calves | Sheep and Lambs | Pigs |
|--|-----------------------------|------|--------|-----------------------|-------|
| Number killed | 794 | 5 | 3 | 2502 | 963 |
| Number inspected | 794 | 5 | 3 | 2502 | 963 |
| <u>All Diseases except Tuberculosis</u> | | | | | |
| Whole carcase condemned | - | - | - | - | - |
| Part of carcase or organ condemned | 144 | 2 | - | 121 | 367 |
| Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis | 18.14 | 40.0 | - | 4.84 | 38.11 |
| <u>Tuberculosis Only</u> | | | | | |
| Whole carcase condemned | - | - | - | - | - |
| Part of carcase or organ condemned | - | - | - | - | - |
| Percentage of number inspected affected with tuberculosis | - | - | - | - | - |
| <u>Cysticercosis</u> | | | | | |
| Carcases of which some part or organ condemned | - | - | - | - | - |
| Submitted for refrigeration | - | - | - | - | - |

Milk Supplies

Brucella Abortus

There are no milk producers in the Urban District.

The County Health Inspector is responsible for the taking and testing of raw milk samples for Brucella Abortus.

Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations, 1963.

There are no egg pasteurisation plants in the Urban District.

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960.

The following is a list of food premises in the district:-

| | |
|-------------------|-------|
| Grocers | 33 |
| Butchers | 9 |
| Fish Shops | 5 |
| Confectioners | 15 |
| Cafes | 12 |
| Licenced Premises | 19 |
| | <hr/> |
| | 93 |
| | <hr/> |

Washing facilities for personal use are provided at all premises. Where necessary, washing equipment facilities are also provided.

Poultry Inspection

There are two poultry processing plants in the district to whom occasional visits are paid.

During the year, the larger plant killed 300,000 hens, 500 chickens and 400 turkeys whilst the smaller plant killed 600 hens and 300 chickens.

APPENDIX I

Causes of Death at different periods of life
during 1970 in the Urban District of Barnard Castle

| Cause of Death | Sex | Total All Ages | Under 4 weeks | 4 weeks and under 1 year | Age in Years | | | | | | | | | |
|--|-----|----------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------|--------------|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----------------|--|
| | | | | | 1- | 5- | 15- | 25- | 35- | 45- | 55- | 65- | 75 and over | |
| Malignant Neoplasm | M | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | |
| - Stomach | F | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | |
| Malignant Neoplasm | M | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | |
| - Intestine | F | 2 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 2 | |
| Malignant Neoplasm | M | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | |
| - Lung, Bronchus | F | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | |
| Malignant Neoplasm | M | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | |
| - Breast | F | 2 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | 1 | - | - | |
| Malignant Neoplasm | F | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | |
| - Uterus | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Leukaemia | M | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | |
| | F | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | |
| Other Malignant Neoplasms | M | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | |
| | F | 4 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 3 | 1 | - | |
| Ischaemic Heart Disease | M | 8 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | 1 | 4 | 2 | - | |
| | F | 11 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | 1 | 9 | - | |
| Other Forms of Heart Disease | M | 2 | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | |
| | F | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | |
| Cerebrovascular Disease | M | 12 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 3 | 5 | 4 | - | |
| | F | 11 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | 1 | 9 | - | |
| Other Diseases of Circulatory System | M | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | |
| | F | 5 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 5 | |
| Pneumonia | M | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | |
| | F | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | |
| Peptic Ulcer | M | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | |
| | F | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | |
| Other Diseases of Digestive System | M | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | |
| | F | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | |
| Other Diseases Genito-Urinary System | M | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | |
| | F | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | |
| Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System | M | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | |
| | F | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | |
| Congenital Anomalies | M | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | |
| | F | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | |
| Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, Etc. | M | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | |
| | F | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | |
| Suicide and Self- Inflicted Injuries | M | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | |
| | F | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | |
| TOTAL ALL CAUSES | M | 29 | 1 | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | 1 | 5 | 13 | 8 | |
| | F | 46 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | 6 | 7 | 31 | |

